

**§ 20.809 Stipulations.**

Any party or interested person may stipulate, in writing, at any stage of the proceeding, or orally at the hearing, to any pertinent fact or other matter fairly susceptible of stipulation. A stipulation binds all parties to it.

**Subpart I—Decisions**

**§ 20.901 Summary decisions.**

(a) Any party may move for a summary decision in all or any part of the proceeding on the grounds that there is no genuine issue of material fact and that the party is entitled to a decision as a matter of law. The party must file the motion no later than 15 days before the date fixed for the hearing and may include supporting affidavits with the motion. Any other party, 10 days or less after service of a motion for summary decision, may serve opposing affidavits or countermove for summary decision. The ALJ may set the matter for argument and call for the submission of briefs.

(b) The ALJ may grant the motion if the filed affidavits, the filed documents, the material obtained by discovery or otherwise, or matters officially noted show that there is no genuine issue of material fact and that a party is entitled to a summary decision as a matter of law.

(c) Each affidavit must set forth such matters as would be admissible in evidence and must show affirmatively that the affiant is competent to testify to the matters stated in the affidavit. Once a party has moved for summary decision and supported his or her motion as provided in this section, no party opposing the motion may rest upon the mere allegations or denials of facts contained in his or her own pleadings. The response to the motion, by affidavit or as otherwise provided in this section, must provide a specific basis to show that there is a genuine issue of material fact for the hearing.

(d) If it appears from the affidavit of a party opposing the motion that this party cannot, for reasons stated, present by affidavit matters essential to justify his or her opposition, the ALJ may deny the motion for summary decision, may order a continu-

ance to enable the obtaining of information, or may make such other order as is just.

(e) No denial of all or any part of a motion for summary decision is subject to interlocutory appeal.

**§ 20.902 Decisions of the ALJ.**

(a) After closing the record of the proceeding, the ALJ shall prepare a decision containing—

(1) A finding on each material issue of fact and conclusion of law, and the basis for each finding;

(2) The disposition of the case, including any appropriate order;

(3) The date upon which the decision will become effective;

(4) A statement of further right to appeal; and,

(5) If no hearing was held, a statement of the right of any interested person to petition the Commandant to set aside the decision.

(b) The decision of the ALJ must rest upon a consideration of the whole record of the proceedings.

(c) The ALJ may, upon motion of any party or in his or her own discretion, render the initial decision from the bench (orally) at the close of the hearing and prepare and serve a written order on the parties or their authorized representatives. In rendering his or her decision from the bench, the ALJ shall state the issues in the case and make clear, on the record, his or her findings of fact and conclusions of law.

(d) If the ALJ renders the initial decision orally, and if a party asks for a copy, the Hearing Docket Clerk shall furnish a copy excerpted from the transcript of the record. The date of the decision is the date of the oral rendering of the decision by the ALJ.

**§ 20.903 Records of proceedings.**

(a) The transcript of testimony at the hearing, all exhibits received into evidence, any items marked as exhibits and not received into evidence, all motions, all applications, all requests, and all rulings constitute the official record of a proceeding. This record also includes any motions or other matters regarding the disqualification of the ALJ.

(b) Any person may examine the record of a proceeding at the U. S.